

## House Resolution 8 - Introduced

### HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 8

BY UPMEYER, PAULSEN, SODERBERG, LOFGREN, ROGERS,  
BERRY, KELLEY, LANDON, DRAKE, and MASCHER

1 A Resolution congratulating the Republic of China  
2 (Taiwan) on its inclusion in the United States Visa  
3 Waiver Program; supporting Taiwan's efforts to  
4 secure entry into the Trans-Pacific Partnership; and  
5 reaffirming support for Taiwan's participation in  
6 the International Civil Aviation Organization, and  
7 for strengthening sister-state ties between Iowa and  
8 Taiwan.

9 WHEREAS, the Republic of China (Taiwan), marking  
10 its centennial in 2011 and entering into its second  
11 century in 2012 as the world's 19th-largest economy,  
12 has achieved economic and social stability, has been  
13 lauded in the last two decades as a beacon of democracy  
14 for Asia, has dramatically improved its record on human  
15 rights, and has taken great steps forward to enter the  
16 world arena as a trusted partner; and

17 WHEREAS, Taiwan gained membership in the United  
18 States Visa Waiver Program, and is the 37th country  
19 to receive visa-free travel privileges to the United  
20 States and only the 5th Asian country with visa-free  
21 status, behind Japan, South Korea, Singapore, and  
22 Brunei; and as a result, more Taiwanese will travel to  
23 the United States for business and tourism, increasing  
24 the spending of tourist dollars and facilitating  
25 business, trade, and investment in the United States,  
26 thus contributing to the national and local economies  
27 and strengthening bilateral ties with the individual

1 states, including Iowa; and

2 WHEREAS, Taiwan in 2011 ranks as the United States'  
3 10th-largest trading partner in the world, serving as  
4 the United States' 15th-largest export market overall,  
5 and the 6th-largest market for U.S. agricultural goods,  
6 as well as the 14th-largest market for Iowa goods,  
7 worth \$125.1 million in 2011, an increase of 18 percent  
8 above Iowa's exports to Taiwan in 2010; and

9 WHEREAS, Taiwan's imports of goods continue to  
10 contribute to Iowa's economy since the September 2011  
11 visit of the Taiwan Agricultural Goodwill Mission to  
12 the United States, which included a delegation visit  
13 to Des Moines and signing of Letters of Intent for  
14 Iowa-grown corn and soybeans through 2013; and

15 WHEREAS, Taiwan, seeking greater regional  
16 integration in the Asia-Pacific region and promotion  
17 of bilateral investment and trade relations with the  
18 United States, welcomes the opportunity presented  
19 by the United States' announcement at the 2011  
20 Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation leaders meeting  
21 of the United States' intent to not only join the  
22 Trans-Pacific Partnership, the proposed 21st-century  
23 trade agreement between the United States and eight  
24 other Asia-Pacific Rim countries, but to expand the  
25 membership in the future to include other countries,  
26 such as Taiwan; and

27 WHEREAS, aviation safety has become a major global  
28 concern since 2001, and even though Taiwan is a key  
29 air transport hub in the Asia-Pacific region, with  
30 more than one million flights passing through the

1 Taipei Flight Information Region, and with one of  
2 the world's largest airport cargo volumes passing  
3 through the Taoyuan International Airport, yet Taiwan  
4 is not a member of the International Civil Aviation  
5 Organization; NOW THEREFORE,

6 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, That  
7 the House of Representatives congratulates the Republic  
8 of China (Taiwan) on gaining inclusion in the United  
9 States Visa Waiver Program; supports Taiwan's efforts  
10 to secure entry into the Trans-Pacific Partnership,  
11 along with the United States and other friendly  
12 Asia-Pacific Rim countries, and to promote bilateral  
13 investment and trade relations with the United States;  
14 reaffirms its support for the participation of Taiwan  
15 in the International Civil Aviation Organization;  
16 and supports strengthening Taiwan-Iowa sister-state  
17 relations, friendship, and exchanges; and

18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Chief Clerk of the  
19 House of Representatives is hereby directed to send a  
20 copy of this Resolution to United States Secretary of  
21 State John Kerry; Secretary General Raymond Benjamin  
22 of the International Civil Aviation Organization;  
23 President Ma Ying-jeou of the Republic of China  
24 (Taiwan); and the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office  
25 in Chicago, Illinois.